



The Barra

Weekly Newsletter of St. Finbar's Catholic Parish, Glenbrook

Christmas 2021

25th & 26th December 2021

VIGIL MASS READINGS ARE: Isaiah 62:1-5; Ps 88; Acts 13:16-17, 22-25; Matthew 1:1-25

10PM MASS READINGS ARE: Isaiah 9:1-7; Ps 95; Titus 2:11-14; Luke 2:1-14

CHRISTMAS DAY MASS READINGS ARE: Isaiah 52:7-10; Ps 97; Hebrews 1:1-6; John 1:1-18

THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY AND JOSEPH MASS READINGS ARE :

Samuel 1:20-22, 24-28; Ps 83; 1John 3:1-2, 21-24; Luke 2:41-52

FR JOE'S MUSINGS

Dear Friends,

As an Augustinian, I would like to point to a wonderful Christmas homily by Saint Augustine (354-430): Truth has arisen from the earth and justice has looked down from heaven.

Awake, mankind! For your sake God has become man. Awake, you who sleep, rise up from the dead and Christ will enlighten you. I tell you again: for your sake God became man.

You would have suffered eternal death had he not been born in time.

Never would you have been freed from sinful flesh had he not taken on himself the likeness of sinful flesh. You would have suffered everlasting unhappiness, had it not been for this mercy. You would never have returned to life had he not shared your death. You would have been lost if he had not hastened to your aid. You would have perished had he not come.

Let us then joyfully celebrate the coming of our salvation and redemption. Let us celebrate the festive day on which he who is the great and eternal day came from the great and endless day of eternity into our own short day of time.

He has become our justice, our sanctification, our redemption, so that, as it is written: Let him who glories glory in the Lord.

Truth, then, has arisen from the earth: Christ who said I am the Truth was born of the Virgin. And justice looked down from heaven: because believing in this new-born child, man is justified not by himself but by God.

Truth has arisen from the earth: because the Word was made flesh. And justice looked down from heaven: because every good gift and every perfect gift is from above.

Truth has arisen from the earth: flesh from Mary. And justice looked down from heaven: for man can receive nothing unless it has been given him from heaven.

Justified by faith, let us be at peace with God: for justice and peace have embraced one another. Through our Lord Jesus Christ: for Truth has arisen from the earth. Through whom we have access to that grace in which we stand, and our boast is in our hope of God's glory. He does not say: "of our glory," but of God's glory: for justice has not come out of us but has looked down from heaven. Therefore, he who glories, let him glory, not in himself, but in the Lord.

For this reason, when our Lord was born of the Virgin, the message of the angelic voices was: Glory to God in the highest, and peace to people of good will.

For how could there be peace on earth unless Truth has arisen from the earth, that is, unless Christ were born of our flesh? And He is our peace who made the two into one: that we might be people of good will, sweetly linked by the bond of unity.

Let us then rejoice in this grace, so that our glorying may bear witness to our good conscience by which we glory, not in ourselves, but in the Lord. That is why Scripture says: He is my glory, the one who lifts up my head. For what greater grace could God have made to dawn on us than to make his only Son become the son of man, so that a son of man might in his turn become son of God?

Ask if this were merited; ask for its reason, for its justification, and see whether you will find any other answer but sheer grace.

Peter, Juliana, Ros, Jean, Deacon Andrew, and I wish you a very blessed Christmas season. Enjoy your well-deserved holidays and stay safe. Thank you for your contributions to the life of the parish.

Fr. Joe

PARISH CALENDAR

Sunday 26th December <i>The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph</i>	8.30am Mass
Monday 27th December <i>St John</i>	No Mass. Office is closed
Tuesday 28th December <i>The Holy Innocents, Martyrs</i>	No Morning Mass
Wednesday 29th December	No Morning Mass
Thursday 30th December	No Morning Mass
Friday 31st December	No Morning Mass 5.00pm Thanksgiving Mass
Saturday 1st January <i>Mary, The Holy Mother of God</i>	9.15am Mass 5.30pm Vigil Mass
Sunday 2nd January <i>The Epiphany of the Lord.</i>	7.30am Mass 9.30am Mass 3.00pm The Epiphany Pilgrimage Fun Day

***WELCOME** all visitors to our church today. We extend our greetings to you. If you wish to join St Finbar's Parish, please make yourself known to one of our Wardens so we can give you our Parish Welcome Pack. Our Parish lies within the Traditional Country of the Darug people- The Aboriginal Custodians of our area.*

2022 RELIGIOUS CALENDARS

Franciscan & Columban calendars now on sale at the Wardens' table at \$6 Franciscan and \$10 Columban. Proceeds got to St Vincent de Paul Society.

YOUTH NIGHT

ST. FINBAR'S PARISH, GLENBROOK



EVERY 1ST & 3RD SUNDAY OF
EACH MONTH @ 6PM

MASS: 6PM SUPPER: 7PM
THE LOUNGE YOUTH GROUP: 7.30-8.30PM

PARISH INFORMATION

Parish Priest: Fr Joseph Lam OSA

E-mail: joseph.lam@parracatholic.org

Phone: 0490 148 387 **(Emergency calls only for Sickness or Death).**

Secretary: Juliana Khnouf

E-mail: secretary@stfinbars.org.au

Admin: Peter McMahon

E-mail: admin@stfinbars.org.au

Phone: 0404 010 997

Office Hours: 9.30am – 3.00pm

Tuesday to Friday

(Closed on Mondays)

Office Phone: **N e w (02) 47426958**

Address:

46 Levy Street, Glenbrook 2773

PO Box 123 Glenbrook NSW 2773

Sacraments

Confessions: Saturday 4.30 – 5.15pm

Baptisms: By Appointment

Weddings: By Appointment

Web: www.stfinbars.org.au

Facebook: Glenbrook Catholic Church St Finbars

Parish School: Principal
Mrs Robyn Clarke

Phone: 4724 3600

OFFICE CLOSURE BETWEEN CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR

Please note that the Parish Office will be closed from Friday the 24th of December to Tuesday the 11th of January with the exceptions of Wednesdays 10-12pm and Fridays 10-12pm. There *will be no daily Masses except for Saturday the 1st of January at 9.15am* as we celebrate *Mary, the Holy Mother of God solemnity*. Father Joe will be away 5th to the 14th of January so there will be no daily Masses but there will be Communion Service on many weekdays. Weekend Masses will be held at their regular times.

BLUE MOUNTAINS EPIPHANY PILGRIMAGE + FIESTA 2022.

Celebrate the joy of the Christmas Season with the two-day Blue Mountains Epiphany Pilgrimage and Fiesta! Choose from a classic pilgrimage experience or family adventure pilgrimage on Sunday, Jan 2 then delight in the afternoon and evening festivities including the Feast of the Epiphany Mass, a festive meal, jumping castle, games and movie night for the kids as well as praise, worship and Adoration for youth and adults. Stay overnight at St Finbars, Glenbrook in the hall or camp on site, then continue the celebrations on Monday, Jan 3 with a morning pilgrimage and Mass in the bush. For more information and to register visit www.epiphanypilgrimage.org.

HAPPY NEW YEAR TO ALL.



FOOD DRIVE FOR REFUGEES, ST FRANCIS HOUSE OF WELCOME, GRANVILLE THANK YOU, THANK YOU for the support! You are wonderful!



Last Tuesday 14th December we delivered over 700 items & packages of all sizes, including many packages with multiple items. Additionally, we proudly handed over \$450 in cash donations. We estimate the many bags of goods to be well over \$4000 in value. This is a wonderful result. Many people will benefit. We have heard that some of the donations have already been placed on the shelves with the remainder to be used in the new year. The photo above shows us with Margaret who is volunteer worker at HOW. Thank you to all who were in a position to donate after such a tough year for so many. Donors included many St Finbar's parishioners as well as generous local residents who responded through our letter drop around the local streets near the church. May Christmas bring everyone many blessings.

CUTE FACT: There were 58 toothbrushes and 38 tubes of toothpaste! Fabulous!

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PLEASE PRAY FOR THE RECENTLY DECEASED:

Frances Lynch (Daniel Lynch Grandmother), Joe Lopez, Anthony Crimston, Patricia Borland (Mary Lopez's sister), Shirley Williams, Stanko Barach (Chris Barach's Father), Marie Watson (Patrick Watson's Sister), Gary Shackleton, Michael McMahon (Peter's brother) and Colleen McHardy.

PLEASE PRAY FOR SICK PARISHIONERS, RELATIVES & FRIENDS:

Sybil Mason, Chris Paine, Margaret Stevens, Lyn Beltran, Ryder Lopez, Margaret Christensen, Joan Paine, Mark Bates, Lyn Downes, Reg Moore, Ellen Moffitt, Terry Stevens, Jacqui Visser, Joanne Macrae, Sophie Hollies, Catherine Kirk (Cameron), Maddison Farrugia, Colleen Nolan, Pam Clyne and Harrison Aggar (Margaret & Ian Dickson's Grandson).

PLEASE PRAY FOR THOSE WHOSE ANNIVERSARIES OCCUR AT THIS TIME:

Allen Klein, Lucy Barrett, Alice Quinn, John Simon, Colin Sell, Arthur Adamson, Richard Cranbrook, Phil O'Danaghoe, Kathleen Thomas, Harriet Walsh and Patrick Walsh.

ST FINBARS NETBALL CLUB

SFNC will be taking registrations for the 2022 Winter season from 4 January for new and returning players. We are excited to be introducing a new look uniform and have INCLUSIVE OPTIONS AVAILABLE!

* Our fees are:

Junior (6 – 17): \$195

Senior (18+): \$220

PWD: \$165

All players who played for SFNC in 2020 or 2021 will receive a \$12 discount. All players who played for SFNC in 2020 and 2021 will receive a \$24 discount. Check your inbox for your individual code in early January. For more information call:

President: Janette Ankers – 0438 672 040 or Registrar:

Belinda Lorking – 0416 131 175

Find us on Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/StFinbarsnetballclub> or email us at secretarysfnc@gmail.com

LITURGICAL ROSTER FOR 1ST & 2ND JANUARY 2022

Liturgical Ministries	5.30pm	7.30 am	9.30 am
Sacristan	Marie Hurley	Carl Moll	Gerard Egan
Senior Server	Peter McMahon	Carl Moll	Joseph Sukkar
Warden	Vince Dobson & Allan Jones	Volunteer Please	Steve Newton
1 st Reading	Beth Culliver	John De Mattia	Pearse Cremin
2 nd Reading	Eileen Jones	John Killeen	Amanda Moore
Intercession	Maureen Tulk	Elizabeth Konza	Steve Newton
IT Operators	Eleanor Thompson	Elizabeth Konza	Pat Watson
Gifts	Noreen Taylor & Janice Smith	Volunteers Please	The Wilson Family
Communion	John Verhoeven	John Killeen	Bernie Fisher
Cashiers	Joe Grange		
Children's Liturgy	School Holiday		
Piety Stall	Closed		
Hospitality	Please note that there will not be any Sunday Hospitality until further notice.		



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